#### THE FRENCH ACADEMY.

RECEPTION OF EUGENE LABICHE. RIS ADDRESS A MASIERPIECE OF WITTY ELOQUENCE -LABICHE AS A FARMER, MAYOR, AND DIPLOMAT WITH THE UHLANS-THE ACADEMY INVADED BY A TIDE OF MODERN LIFE,

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] Paris, Nov. 26.-That luckiest of lucky men, Engene Labiche, was received yesterday at the Academie Francaise, and to crown his luck he read there a set speech about which the serious and frivolous, the literary and superficial members of les anciennes couches nociales have ever since been raving. Labiche composed his harangue just as the spirit moved him to write it. In every paragraph it is felicitous, and throughout varied and natural. Sarcey was lecturing about it before the newspapers had caught it up in the afternoon, and prenounced it the most charming masterpiece of its kind that he eyer listened to in the Academy. Labiche writes droll plays for the Palais Royal. He is a Paul de Kock, less the Dutch coarseness of it must rejoice. Women have unquestionably asthat novelist. Irish Catholic priests used to teach their fair penitents that so long as they were kept | notably Louise Michel. It is to be regretted that laughing their guardian angel never deserted them, A play which was from beginning to end hilarious mind, and that her influence is not on the side of might, therefore, be witnessed without injury to the soul. Judged by this criterion, Labiche is perfeetly hatmless. No writer has ever been a cause of more side-splitting mith; and no Academician ever spoke with more penetrating unction on the power of religion to keep human nature sweet, beneficent, and dignified than he did vesterday in praising his Jansenist predecessor, and describing his hearth, home, and family life.

Labiche, as was anticipated, read his speech more than well-delightfully. Those who listened forgot it was a monologue. As a successful dramatic author he has had great experience in the quality of an elecutionist. Since 1842 he has constantly written amusing dramas for the Palais Royal, and before each play was accepted be read it to a committee of management. There is great relief in his style; there are no forced antitheses; still, contrasting passages and ideas abound, which come as though of themselves without being fetched by the nathor of the harangue. Wit sparkles every where, and we never and it unaffied with kindly geniality. The fabulist, La Fontaine, was called " le Bonhomme," and so ought to be the successor at the Academy of the late M, de Sacy.

PROSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF LABICHE. Labiche has a good, supple voice for reading. The tone is a medium one, and there is sustaining power in the threat and chest. His enunciation is clear, a little slaw, but varied in its effects, and sway in Labiche. He is absolutely free from staginess. I could imagine no greater treat than to hear Labiche often read the letters he is in the habit of receiving from his old and intimate friend, Earle Angier, and the answers that he returns,

The new Academician, though he has been writing since 1842 for the Palais Royal Theatre, has not grown old-fashioned. He is a quiet-looking elderly gentlement, comfortably stout, and looking younger than his years. His face is heavy, and if thin might be squarely angular. The mouth is ally are which are made to utter witty sayings, is wide. His laughing spirit is lodged in the eyes, which are expressive of comicality and goodhumor. The lines of the face are not remarkable in any way. In its general tenor, Labiche's life has en tranquil and well regulated. He has been rich enough from youth upward to live out his own life. Jog-trot domestic happiness has constantly been his lot, and he has succeeded in every work he has undertaken. In his friendships he has been peculiarly fortunate. Labiehe leads the healthy existence of a country gentleman in the Chateau de Landais, in the Sologue. He has reclaimed about 3,000 acres of what used to be unprofitable secon and has converted it into a rich farm, on which a Swiss village of which he is the Mayor has sprung up since he went to live there. The farm is his serious accupation. Surplus energy alone goes into the Palais Royal channel. It amuses him in the long evenings to write funny plays in which the butt for his mitth is the urban bourgeois. He is on his estate a jack of all trades and professions, and consulted by the villagers about their own maladies and those of their cattle; about their law affairs also; and it not unfre quently happens that the old folks come and ask him to write their letters! They all call him " M'sieu le Mairz," and he calls himself " le Maire a tout Faire," or the Cheap Jack of the Commune. WIT IN WARFARE.

He was at his civic post in the Sologne when the German invasion was sweeping over France, and he played some tricks on the invaders, inspired by his farcical Palais Royal muse. One day the Mayor of a neighboring village came driving up the avenue at Landais to consult the Chatelain on an affair of major importance. He was pale from apprehension. "What is the matter?" Labiehe. "Have the Prussians taken your wife as a hostage?" "No. But the Grand Duke of Schnedendorfi (the real name of his Highness the witty author can never recollect) has come with a retinue of officers and Uhlans, and they swear they will pillage the house if I do not send them to-day in time for dinner 200 bottles of Chateau Lafitte. Two hundred bottles!" repeated the frightened Mayor. "Where am I ever to find them in this Sologne wilderness? Unless-" "Unless what?" said Labiehe. "Oh, I hardly dare say it," "Say out, man, and don't be afraid." "Unless you cede them to me, I will pay you ten, twelve, fourteen sixteen, twenty francs a bottle if you choose to ask Commune." "And you think." replied Labiche, "that I am going to let those Prussians swill themselves with my choice wines? I'm not such a fool." "But, good M. Labiche," supplicated the Mayer, "just think a moment of all the bric-a-brac they would have a pretext for looting," "Oh. I do not mean at all that you are to be looted. But I have an idea." "What is it?" "You have some execrable vin ordinaire. Well, just go home. I'll give you 200 empty bottles with a Paulliac mark. Fill them with your ordinaire, seal the corks, and send than to he will be them to he will be the send them to he will be the will be them. that price, and set it down to the charge of the Fill them with your ordinaire, scal the corks, and send them to his Highness the Grand Duke." As Labiche advised him, so the frightened Mayor did The Grand Duke and his officers never suspected the trick that was played upon them, and the pre-

ous brie-a-brac was not looted. A few days later some Ublans rode up the sam A few days later some Uhlans rode up the same avenue, brandishing swords and in apparent fury. Franc-tireurs had been annoying the invaders, and Labiche knew it. The moment he saw them he took his wife by the shoulders and nushed her over to the piano, and said: "Quick! quick! strike up a sentimental waltz." She, more dead than alive, obeyed. The husband then threw open the windows, and running into the hall stood with his back to the entrance door, at which a Uhlan knocked. When a servant girl ran to open it, the master beckoned to her to return to the kitchen. He opened when the waltz had time to produce its effect on the Germans, whose anger, as he indged it would be, was softened by the music. They were craning toward the window not to lose a note. Labiche found them in a mood to negotiate, and before they left summoned young ladies on a visit with his wife to come to the drawing-room and dance a round with the Uhlans.

BEAUTY AND FASHION AT THE ACADEMY.

BEAUTY AND FASHION AT THE ACADEMY.

At yesterday's reception, the Academy had a gay, modern, and bright aspect. Ladies were in toi lets unusually brilliant for Academical solemni ties. Labiche obtained tickets for his fair Palais Royal friends and for most of the comic actors of that and the other theatres. Princess Mathilde is a personal friend of Labiche, who has often entertained Prince Jerome at his Sologne chateau. She went to hear the joyous writer's speech, and being a woman of original mind and culture, was delighted with it. Legouve and Angier were the godfathers. John Lemoinne was to answer the recipiendaire. His speech, after Labiche's, fell flat. It was thin in style, poor in matter, labored, and smelle I badly of the lamp. Sarcey, at his lecture, said that it was not worthy of being reproduced by the XIXth Siecle. Its defects would not have been probably noticed bad not the richly gitted literary squire of the Sologne first spoken. There was the freshness of the country in what Labiche said about M. de Sacy, about that Moloch of modern taient, journalism, about revolutions, politics, his own unassuming good-natured muse, and the last message which his predecessor sent to the Academy. Had Madame de Sevigue's son inherited the wit and geniality of his mother, her ready pen, and natural style, I could imagine him expressing himself at the Academy as Labiche did yesterday.

I have spoken of the ladies' dresses. To enter into details, the blonde and very pretty Madame Henry

Houssaye was in emerald green velvet, with a round hat crowned with a tuit of green feathers, held in their place by a gold filagree butterfly. Madame Camille See, wife of the author of the bill for the higher education of girls, was also in green, but of a deeper dye. This lady is daughter of the emment physiologist, Germain See, who has in the interest of the human race encouraged her husband to persevere in carrying his bill through Partiament. Madame Labiche is a sweet, sonsy, and very ladylike woman of more than torty. She was in a black satin costume and mantle, thinmed with zebeline fur, and had lilac feathers in her bonnet. I am told that she and Labiche are a "John Anderson my Jo" couple, and certainly much love and affection was expressed in her tearful eyes, which every time he was applauled welled over. Madame Adam was in black satin and jet. In the court outside the portice entrance she amuonneed that a morning representation of her Galathie will be given next week for the benefit of the girls technical schools directed by Madame Paulin.

THE WOMAN'S RIGHTS QUESTION.

THE WOMAN'S RIGHTS QUESTION I may here observe that the tide of politics and manners now runs in an Equal Rights direction. If ductions of modern times, and gods, goddesses Herace Greeley's beneficent spirit can take cognizance of what is now being done in France for girls. sumed the open direction of the Kadical party, and suffering has deranged her exceptionally noble pacific evolution. Madame Adam leads the literary world. Gambetta is notoriously advised by a lady of spotless reputation and great political and literaty experience. In the Faubourg St. Germain spiritual directors think that Women's Suffrage, which Dumas, his recommends, would be favorable to the clergy, and therefore are for Equal Rights. Just now, it would be procuctive of clerical reaction, but when Camille See's hill has been fifteen years in operation. Women's Suffrage, I believe, and he does also, would prove in the highest degree beneficent. Apropos of Dumas, file, he was one of the Academicians to whom Labuche wittly alluded when he told how they encouraged him to knock at the door of the Palais Mazarin. His two daughters were at the reception. The youngest looked very prelty in a dark bine velvet costame trimmed with silver fur. She is like her father, and gifted with an active and inventive mind. An English nobleman who saw her at Lord Salisbury's marine villa near Dieppe, is said to be in love with her, and thinking of unking her an olier of a Countess's coronet and a large fortune. of spotless reputation and great political and lit-

#### THE PETROLEUM SUPPLY.

A GREAT DECLINE IN THE PRODUCTION OF THE BRADFORD OIL FIELD-ACTIVE COMPETITION THE ONLY HOPE FOR CHEAP OIL IN THE FUTURE. FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Bradford, Penn., Dec. 23 -A few facts regarding an industry that contributes a product the come amiss inasmuch as comparatively little is known of the petroleum business outside of the region of its origin. aiways natural. Nature and good-nature have full. In a general way it has been understood that the production of crude oil has, since the discovery of the Bradford field, three or four years sign, greatly exceeded the consumption, and few persons not directly interested have given may further attention to the mat-To-day, however, the whole situation has changed, and unless some other great oil producing region is very soon brought to light, the con somers and not the producers of petroleum will have

The situation sooms to be as follows: The Bradford oil field is rapidly following in the fost-steps of the Oil Creek, Butler and Clarion disbeautifully formed, and, as French mouths gener- tricts, the decline in production being steady and rapid. Oll Creek, that at one time supplied the world with oil, new produces less than 1,000 barrels a day, while the Butler and Clarion districts, that once put forth 40,000 barrels daily, are now known only as places where old jank may be purchased at very low prices. In other words, the Bradford field must now produce the oil, and it is beyond question that this field is now upon the downward grade. One of the strongest indications of this fact is found in the decline of new work. This is not caused by the inactivity of the producers, but by the lack of available territory in which to operate. All producing territory is now in the hands of actual operators, many of whom were anxious to hold their land without drilling until next year, when they expected much better prices, knowing that the field was limited. But in nearly every case these conservative operators were compelled to sink wells in order to prevent their lands from being drained through the drilling of reckless neighbors. The result has been that to-day they see that they will be out of work next year for lack of territory. But the individual hardship will be as nothing compared to the probable increased cost of artificial light to the world's poor. To come, then, to the immediate future of petroleum production and its cost, it may be said that, from the comparatively little new work being commenced, the rapid decline in the wells now producing, and the defining of the oilbearing territory, the days of cheap petroleum have passed, at least for some time. Even should a new field be discovered, past experience shows that petroleum, be discovered, past experience shows that petroleum, outside of the present field, where the oil flows, owing to outside of the present field, where the oil flows, owing to all who are admitted. Formerly a shaded drawing manner, that is enough. the great quantity of gas, costs to produce from \$1 50 \$3 per barrel. When the world has to depend upon districts outside of Bradford for its supply, it may reasonably expect to pay the above prices for crude oil. The number of wells now being pumped in this district is simply enormous, and I have talked with three sucker-rod manufacturers who are fitting up daily an average of twenty wells. A pumping well never produces anything like as much as one that flows, and the increased cost of operating, made up of labor, breaking and wearing of machinery, clouging of the tubing from sand and paraffine and stoppage from sever weather, must all go into the general account. At pre-ent a large number of wells are sant down owing to scarcity of water. In every district in the Bradford flei

scarcity of water. In every district in the Bradford fle-the indications of an immense decline daily accumulate. While an immense decline and increased cost of pro-duction in crude oil are as certain as anything in the future can be, it is possible that this may not have the effect of raising the price of refined of effine at least two-thirds of the crude materia, and the rodis have undoubtedly been very large. In the recent junction suit, in Cleveland, of the Standard Oil Com-any against Schoffeld, Shurmer & Teagle, the following ppeared as part of the evidence:

appeared as part of the evidence:

The next year, 1876, the net profit per barrel was \$2.52.
Abam 88,000 bercels were reduced, and there was a real profit of \$222,000. Each party, plaintiff and defendants, thus received \$111,000 profit. While the contract continued, to July 20, 1880, the lowest profit was \$1.37 per barrel, and the average \$1.72 per barrel.

It was inevitable that a business show-

ing such a net profit to one corporaattract the attention of capitalists, and a large number of capacious refineries are now building at Buffalo, Pittsburg, Chester and other points. With these refineries in the crude market as competitive buyers, it is possible that the price of refined oil will be kept within reason-able limits, notwithstanding a large appreciation of the price of crude oil. A moderate price for refined oil is a real blessing to almost every land on the planet, nd a boon which, it is to be hoped, the country may be ble to confer upon the poor of all nations for many years to come.

# " MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN."

AN APPEAL FOR THE CONDUCTORS AND DRIVERS OF HORSE-CARS.
To The Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: There is a class of our fellow-men who are exposed to great bardships and great temptation. I refer to the conductors and drivers on our various horse-car lines. They have to be up at 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning and are often on duty until 11 and 12 at night. Between these intervals they have a "swing" of two hours, more or less, at a time when they are not on duty. These intervals come irregularly and afford them opportunity for rest and meals. Some of the horse-car tines have a commodious room well lighted and warmed with comfortable seals where the employes can rest while not on duty. Others, notably the Fourth Avenue ine has nothing of the kind. There is a small room where the men can stay, but it contains no accommoda tions for their comfort. Liquor and lager-beer saloons are everywhere, and from the light and warmth and con fortable seats with which they are furnished are very inviting to shivering, tired, nungry men. But he who enters these saloons to enjoy their shelter and comfort is expected to drink, is tempted to drink, is in a minner compelled to drink. A dranken conductor or driver is instantly discharged, and finds it very hard to get another situation. Is it not cruel to subject men to temptation so terrible? To place them thus between two fires one of widen must inevitably ourn them? The Fourth Avenue line can certainly afford to make good receiving for its employer. for its employes, r point. Some of the lines, notably the Sixth

Avenue line, furnish to their employes two tickers each at night, with one of which they may ride to their Avenue line, furnish to their enployes two tickets each at hight, with one of which they may ride to their homes, and with the other ride back in the morning to their work. Ought not every line to do this? These men are on their feet almost constantly when on duty. What they suffer only themselves know. The wife of a conductor toid me yesterday that for a year her husband had not been able to put on or take off his shoes and stockings; that from being constantly on his feet his imply were sometimes so swollen that the flesh hung down over his ankles; that if his timbs were not tightly bandaged when on duty he could not keep about at all. Yet this man must walk a mile and a half to and from his post morning and night, or pay fare out of his meagre earnings, which are barely sufficient to keep soul and body tocether. He is a conductor on the Fourth Avenue line, and has been for years.

If the car companies cannot be compelled by the claims of humanity and public opinion to make comfortable provision for their men, will not private beneficence take the matter in hand and provide for conductors and drivers as it does for newsboys!

L. L. New-York, Dec. 22, 1880.

STUDYING CAST AND MODEL.

A GLANCE AT THE ART SCHOOLS. WHAT MAY BE SEEN IN THE ALCOVES-THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION AT THE ACADEMY OF DISIGN

-THE BUILDING TOO SMALL-PAINTINGS THAT ARE RARELY SEEN. To one who enters for the first time, the art schools of the New-York Academy of Design present much that is enrious and novel. The Antique School, with its three large alcoves, crowded with casts and easels and students, is a busy and interesting place. The earnest young men and women, ered about the glaring white plaster casts, are in

with quick glances and ready fingers, who are gathstriking contrast with 'the motionless forms which tower above them. The casts themselves, too. contrast strangely with each other. The works of ancient Greece and Rome are jostled by the proand men-men even of the nineteenth century-in plaster, are ranged along the walls on terms of easy familiarity. Some of the relationships of contiguity are strikingly harmonious; others are amusing for their absurdity.

As one enters the Antique school, just within the deer he is confronted by the menacing figures of . two Roman boxers. When he recovers from the feet, hung in a little triangular closet with the door momentary shock, he will see in the first alcove a open. Several distressed-looking anatomical casts large number of students drawing from casts of heads. A pretty young girl is drawing the head of the young Augustus, and if she does not fall in love with the handsome youth before she gets through, certainly it will not be the fault of Augustus. Niobe's daughter is placed dangerously near Augustus, but her upturned gaze reaches far beyepd mortal things. A young man near by is repromodus, with whom Caracalla and Vitellius appear in congenial association. Napoleon and Julius Caesar are sympathetic neighbors, and Nero is obliged to tace his old preceptor, Seneca, whom he ernelly condemned to death. Socrates, who was the alcove at the thin, strongly marked face of Voltaire, placed between Agrippa and Diana. George Washington divides his attention between June and Venus, and Robert Fulton, once characterized as the "discoverer of the Fulton Ferry," is in the company of Trajan and "the good Aurelius, A marble bust of Washington Allston appropriately looks up into the face of Apollo,

"What is the difference between your drawing and the appearance of the cast? Look intently, critically, and see if you cannot tell me," says Professor Wilmarth, the instructor, to one of the young women, who thereupon begins to detect errors which she had not noticed in her work before. "Exactly; now compare the proportions again. Your outline needs a great deal more of refinement; look at the cast!"-and so the instructor works

The second and third alcoves are not so crowded, They contain only statues, and a greater degree of proficiency is required in drawing. The Gladiator confronts a semi-circle of struggling students, over stands with downcast head, while fleet-footed Merenry, beside him, seems to be pausing in some Olympian errand to exchange glances with the Venns de Mediet across the way, toward whom the Supplicating Youth turns his eyes and raises his thoughtfulness, seems entirely oblivious to the poor humanity at her feet endeavoring to reproduce her dignity and grace. The petrified agony of the Laocoon group claims no attention to-day, and the sweet Graces must be company for each other. Silenus dandles the Infant Bacchus for the benefit of only two or three admirers, and the poor maimed Theseus, victim of time and the elements, is left alone with his memories of Athens.

A careful observer could not fail to notice more than one young man turn away from the stony figure before him, and stealthily sketch the face of one of his fair neighbors. Living beauty and the grace of to-day would sometimes assert their fascination even in the midst of the allurements of ancient art.

A TALK WITH PROFESSOR WILMARTH. " How many students are there here now ?" asked

a Tribune reporter of Professor Wilmarth " About 150 in all the classes, and we might have as many more if we could take them; but there is not room to accommodate many more than are here at present. In order to get along at all, this year, we have had to raise the standard for admission to the Antique school. The instruction is free to the human figure, if considered of sufficient merit by the Council of the Academy, would admit the applicant, but now nothing less than the drawing of an antique head will be considered, and that must be of a much higher degree of excellence than has been required in past years. Then, too, the Council only receives applications for admission upon the first Monday of each month now, instead of upon any Monday as heretofore. The Council meets weekly, as usual, however, to consider draw-

of upon any Monday as heretofore. The Council meets weekly, as usual, however, to consider drawings offered to secure promotion."

"How many departments of instruction are there in the Academy now?"

"There are the Antique school, the Life school, and the Portrait and Sketch classes. The Antique school is open beth to men and women from 7 o'clock in the morning until 9 at night. The Life school has separate classes for men and women, who draw from the nude model. The class for men meets in the forenoon and also in the evening, the class for women in the afternoon. Students are admitted to this school after having submitted a shaded drawing of a statue made in the Antique school, which is of sufficient merit to convince the Council that the advancement of the student is justified by his or her ability. The Portrait class meets in the Lecture-room in the afternoons. Models in artistic costumes are provided, and the students may either draw or paint, as they are able. The requisite for admission is the approval by the Council of a crayon drawing of a head made in the Antique school. The Sketch class is more a students affair, and is open to all who wish to join. It meets between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoons. The students falsar, and is open to all who wish to join. It meets between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoons. The students take turns in posing day by day, and each one assumes a costume representing some prominent historical character or habit of dress, Care is taken to have these costumes as accurate as possible, and thus the class work is very instructive. nent historical character of halaft of dress. Care is taken to have these costumes as accurate as possible, and thus the class work is very instructive aside from the value of the practice given in drawing. Announcements of the costumes to be used are given out a week beforehand, so that there may be due time for preparation. Some of the students who are unable to bear the fatigue of posing for an hour under the intense observation of their associates—and I assure you it is no easy task for anyone at first—hare models for whom they farnish the costumes decided upon. "On Saturdays the Academy is closed. That is a

new rule, but it is a good one, for it not only gives the students a needed vacation, but gives them an the students a needed vacation, but gives them an opportunity for visiting the studios, galleries, and many of the private collections in the city, where they can gain much from critical observation.

"One of the most interesting features of the Academy is the Students' Society, which incets fortnightly. On the earlier meeting of the month, a subject for compositions is assigned, and the compositions produced in the previous month are criticised in the presence of the society. Compositions may be in black and white or in color as the student chooses. The subject presented at the last ient chooses. The subject presented at the las-neeting, for instance, was 'Hesitation,' and the members of the society will each compose a picture to illustrate that idea. This gives the students a chance to exercise their originality, and also fairly shows the degree of individuality they severally possess. No two of the pictures will probably illus-trate the idea in the same manner, and hence, each stadent may learn something from every other student. At these meetings, after the compositions student. At these meetings, after the compositions have been criticised and a subject has been selected for the next month, the remainder of the evening is devoted to social intercourse, music, and sometimes there is dancing. At the alternate meetings, held near the middle of each month, the design is to have a series of lectures by prominent fartists, on the practical in art—the idea being not so much to have a series of elaborate essays on art, but a number of piain talks, giving experiences of the speakers, and showing the different methods of working, of and showing the different methods of working, of arranging the palette, treating of the characteristic of colors, and other subjects of a kindred nature. Last winter President duntington and others lee tured to the students, and there was also a series of

tured to the students, and there was also a series of talks on 'Artistic Anatomy.' After the conclusion of each lecture, a general discussion usually follows, and the rest of the evening is sometimes devoted to the Academy's large collection of engravings and photographs of celebrated paintings.

"It is a great pity that there is not room in the Academy for placing on exhibition its permanent collection of paintings and other art works, so that students and others could have access to them. Few persons have any idea of the great number of excellent works in possession of the Academy. In the first place, each Associate, upon his election, is required to present his portrait, painted by himself, and each Academician must present one of his required to present his portrait, painted by himself, and each Academician must present one of his paintings. Now the collection of portraits alone is interesting, but the collection of pictures from the Academicians shows the progress of American art from Morse down to the present time, and therefore is invaluable aside from the artistic worth of the

pictures. No Academician wishes to leave the Academy a picture to represent him all through the Academy a picture to represent him all through the future which is unworthy of him, and beare the examples from each artist are of the highest order of his work. But there is no place to hang these pictures at present, and so they are packed in boxes and rarely see the light. Then there is also the Suydam collection of paintings, which was given to the Academy, which includes a number of representative works of both American and foreign art, and there are besides many paintings which have been presented by artists and others, and the fine collection of engravings, photographs, and reproductions already mentioned. There are a few pieces of sculpure also. But excuse me, I must go into the Life school for a few moments now; would you like to come along?

THE SCENE IN THE LIFE SCHOOL. Passing between two colossal statues, representing Bacchus and Hercules, which seem to guard the entrance, the reporter found himself in the "Life room," a long apartment not remarkably well lighted, in which a large number of young men sat with their easels ranged in a semi-circle about a nude young man of admirably developed proportions, who stood upon a raised platform, posing it a characteristic attitude. Along the rear of the room were shelves upon which are numerous casts, and-strangely out of place for a "Life room"-a dejected looking old skeleton which mourned the loss of nearly all of the phalanges of its hands and open. Several distressed-looking anatomical casts outside were fitting companions for the ancanny object. A semi-circle of shaded gas-burners depended from the ceiling, and a large relector was arranged to light up the model at night. An ingenious arrangement of steam pipes laid along the floor surrounded the the place where the model stood, so that while the temperature immediately about him might be very high, in order that he need not take cold, the remainder of the room might be properly vantilated and the temperature rendered confortable for the sindents. After the Professor had criticised all of the drawines, the reporter asked what particular method of instruction be employed.

'I teach after the French, or 'Painters' System, e said, "which, seeing objects in light and shade spresents them as they appear rather than as the citually are. Almost all artists follow that systen ow, the modern Germans having adopted it from the French and Belgians some time ago. The ob-ermans, of whom Coraclius is a fair example, be-Germans, of whom Coraclius is a fair example, believed in painting real truths instead of appearances, but that is the method for the sculptor, not for the artist. For instance, if you look at a distant object, you see it in masses of light and shade, not in detail; hence, to paint it as you know it is, rather than as you see i, would be to paint a false-hood, while to paint the apparent—which is diskerent from the actual condition—would be to point the trath from your point of view.

"But as to methods of teaching, there can be no aniform method for the treatment of all students. Treating a dozen men alike is absolutely runnous in art. The great object, in my view, is to encourage what talent there may be in the individual and make the most of it, not attempting to change or warp his individuality, but to develop his capability to exercise and express it. Individuality! consider as the through of greatest importance in a man. But

warp his individuality, but to develop his callatory to exercise and express it. Individuality I consider as the thing of greatest importance in a man. But the individuality of one man of necessity differs from that of every other man; the instructor there-fore should first and out the peculiarities of each student, and instruct him according to his character. Each man has his own organism; in one this may be fine, delicate, and exceedingly sensitive, and such a man will work slowly and carefully; in another the nature may be coarse, blunt, and full of brute force, and that man will rush over a prodigious amount of ground, in a strong manner maybe, in a surprisingly short time. One mant be gentle with the refined nature—severity of criticism would discourage and maybe crush it, before, by exercise, it could attain sufficient strength to withstand hard knocks. With the coarser nature one may pound away, and knock off the rough cases as with a great hammer, until the character is dressed sufficiently to receive the more refining influences. An excess of delicacy, without strength, is useless, and very great strength is valueless if not tempered by refinement. Both elements are necessary to the accomplished artist," and if either element is weak, it should be strengthened,

Again, one man may be able to do in a minute Again, one man may be gote to do in a minute what another cannot do in an hour. I believe in dvancing the rapid worker, and in giving the ther time ac ording to his thought. I do not believe in grinding a man through a mill, but in letother time ac ording to his thought. I do not believe in grinding a man through a mill, but in letting him work according to his individual organism and talent. Our great object is to teach the student think for himself and learn how to interpret nature as he goes along. He must learn how to ask nature questions, and also how to receive nature's answers. One cannot formulate a recipe for learning this; each man must learn it in his own way. The ultimate end before the student is to learn to express all the appearances of nature truthfully. To do this, he must learn to see the proportions that exist in things and the relations of light and shade. That includes all of drawing, and added to that 'truth in color' comprehends all there is in painting. If a man has learned these, he can render any effect in nature. But beyond that power comes the creative faculty, hand that must be in the man himself. No Academy can give him that. We can only assist him by teaching him how to correct his eye and to develop quick and accurate perceptions. In regard to the manner of working or the materials used, I care nothing at all; if the end sought for is attained in the best manner, that is enough.

"All who study art, of course, cannot become

artists, but all will be made better able to enjoy both art and nature from the study; they will be better able to pass judgment upon the work of others, and to appreciate the relinements of life in general. But it is impossible to make just anybody an artist. Artistic capability or talent must have been born in the individual destined to excel in art, and it must be cultivated by years of earnest study before success can come. It is easy for schools to turn out educated classes, but great mer can never be produced merely by education."

# NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 22.-Some noticeable Improvements are being made to the summer residence of Congressman Levi P. Morton, of New-York, on Belle vue-ave., and also to the cottage on the same avenue

Colonel John S. Engs and Mr. William F. Townsend, of this city, have gone to Havana for the winter. Lieutenant McCarthy Little, U. S. N., is in town with ois family.

family in this city Mrs. Edward King, of New-York, has commenced to materially improve her extensive estate on Spring and Bowery-sts. The forest trees which have hid the house

Mr. James R. Keene will spend the holidays with his

from view are being cut away, and some other improve nents are to be made to the grounds. The United States sloop-of-war Powhatan, which has been at ancher in the outer harbor for several weeks. has returned to New-York.

The vessels comprising the training fleet of the Navy are expected to rendezvous off Coaster's Harbor Island furing the wieter, by order of the Navy Department. General James H. Van Alen, of New-York, has pur chesed the Maghee cottage at Ward ave. and Clay-st. which he will alter and otherwise improve as a summer esistence. He paid about \$7,000 for the estate.

Mr. J. Neilson Howard has returned from his visit to

Mr. Thomas Biddle, of Philadelphia, has purchased about 4,300 feet of land on the west side of Everett-

At the second entertainment of the Bellevue Deanatic Club at Casino Hall there was presented a comedy n one act, translated from the French by members of the company. The leading characters were personated by Mrs. Wilson Eyre and Mr J. White. This was fol owed by a burlesque operatic monodrama by Mr. Opthorp, of Boston. The monologue represented a French
cook, who gives the boys in the kitcaen his experience
in witnessing the opera of "Robert the Devil." After
the play there were dincing, music and refreshments.
The clite of the place were present.
Mr. John P. Newell, of this city, is spending the win-

ter at Pau, France.

The Rh de Island Medical Society has appointed Dr. Samuel W. Butler, of this city, a delegate to the New-The Gibbs Land Company has sold to Mr. William T. Rehards, the crist, of Germantown, Penn, a let of Land Gibbs & De Biols-aves.

The heirs of the late Miss Mary F. Wyeth have sold a Chang Samuel P. The heirs of the late Miss Mary F. Wyeth have so to of land on Everett-place to Colonel Samuel R.

theutenant J. L. Meiges, U. S. N., has reported for duty at the Government Torpedo Station in this harbor.
The weekly hops at Fort Adams are among the social events of the season.

# DROWNED AT FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Va., Dec. 25.—Corporal Norton, of Battery K. 2d Artillery, in company with Jacob Klein, civilian, and a corporal of Battery C, 5th Artillery, attempted this afternoon to cross Mili Creek, a mile west of the fort, in a small boat, which, being overloaded, capsized. The day was foggy and the boat could not be seen by the people on the store. Norton, who was not strong, soon became exhausted and disappeared. The other two were resound by a Mr. Dristell, who heard their cries and went to their assistance. Klein has since died from the effects of his exposure. Norton's budy has not yet been r covered.

How they Live Now .- (Scene-Smoking-HOW THEY LIVE NOW.—(Scelle—Smoking-room at the Oympus. True, 4 p. m.) Young Quiverful (Government clerk on £120 per annum to admiring friend); "Yes—doosed bad luck again—dropped three hundred here last night. If this sort o' thing goes on for a month I shall have to draw on the Guv'nor. The old boy'll pull rather a long face over it, ch't" (Considering that the "old boy"—the Rev. Denis Quiverfulhas about fourteen calidren to provide for on a thousand a year, it is not improbable that he will—(Canch).

YOUNG'S ANALYTICAL CONCORDANCE. AN EXAMINATION INTO CERTAIN CHARGES-THE TEIRUNE'S PREMIUM A PERFECT EDITION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: Your excellent premium of "Young's Analytical Concordance" has been safely received. I was greatly surprised, however, to find the edition that published by the American Book Exchange, of New-York. Some time since I became acquainted with serious charges made by another publisher, who claims to issue the "authorized American edition, to wit: "That a publishing firm in America

. . are attempting to foist upon the community an unrevised and imperfect edition of the Concord ance :" and, " without attempting to correct even the most obvious typographical errata, they are reprinting verbatim, leaving out most important

matter inserted in the second edition." I was, of course, prejudiced against the Book Exchange edition, for that was the only object of these charges; and was unfavorably impressed with the premium, especially as these serious charges came through the Edinburgh firm direct to the American clergy. On first thought, I feit that so respectable and prominent an establishment as THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE would never offer an imperfect copy of such an important work as its premium to new subscribers. But I felt, too, that charges from such a source deserved investigation, because if the edition was imperfect in one particular, it might be in nany, and would be narcitable as a whole. I have, therefore, taken the time and pains to examine it carefully, by comparison with the "authorized American edition," which I understand to be the second revised edition. The proof of the charges quoted would appear im-

mediately under such a comparison. I am rejoiced

to say that I cannot find the slightest difference page measure, while the "authorized American edition" prints the same in one page, three columns of solid nonpared. Your premium edition has a decided advantage in this respect. Otherwise, the style, page headings, display words and body matter, are precisely the same in each edition. Any page, beginning, middle or end, has the same page, beginning, middle or end, has the same amount of matter and same page runnier in each edition. Nowhere do I find in your oremism edition a brek of matter that is in the "authorized;" both are the same, and this seems to reinte squarely that charge of "leaving out most important matter inserted in the second edition." I fail to find "obvious typographical errata" in the premium, as compared with the "new and revised edition" which the other firm advertise. There occur some lines in the body winch are so full that the main prominerations in English of Fleorew or Greek words are left out, while they are not, isome cases excepted when room permits. I cite one lastance: Page 367, first column, "forgetful, to be," The Grees in the next interface of polenthe, should be epilanthenomai. The abbreviation is doubtless for want of room in the ine. It is exactly the same in both editions. Page 366, last column, "to forget about," the same Greek word is given the full traite grantication, as room in the lab allows. This is so in both editions. Now these might be considered "typegraphical errata," and they are "obvious" enough; but they are "obvious" in both editions alike! Again, page 367, second column, "form, to," the line is so full that the Hebrew words at the end have no italic pronuncation; same in both editions and voir and or was will not allow furthers. We time and your agas will not allow furthers. to," he line is so limit that the Testew works at the end have no itable pronunciation; same in both editions. My time and your space will not allow further citations, but there might be many more of this "crrata" sort—as page 366, "to receive forget-futiess;" page 144, "carually" laying of seed; page 296, "of emerald, light green;" page 909, "slightly," ad infinition!

ad infinitum?

I find no differences existing between these two editions of Mr. Young's Concertance, and conclude that the advertisement of the "new, revised and anthorized American edition," in so far as changes anthorized American edition," in so far as changes are concerned, need not alarm anyone who has through the Trintone, secured the American edition. I am satisfied that the two editions are alikain every particular, save the "prefatory note," as explained. Thanking you, sir, for your invaluable gift, and including my warm regards for the Trintone, I am, sincerely yours,

ARTHUR'S, BURROWS,

Pastor Baptist Church.

Rainbow, Conn., Dec. 17, 1880.

THE OLD GUNS AT NEWBURG. A LETTER FROM J. T. HEADLEY IN ANSWER TO MR. AECHIBALD FORENS'S EXCEPTIONS TO THE CAT-ALOGUE OF RELICS AT WASHINGTON'S HEAD-

QUARTERS.
To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In THE TRIBUNE of the 13th inst. there appears a letter from the distinguished English journalist and lecturer, Mr. Archibaid Forbes, concerning the Washington's Headquarters at his place, in which, speaking of the catalogue of guns and other trophies, he says:

On the penultimate page of this catalogue . . . there occurs the following from: "730. One Sanch Howitzer-English bronze-captured at Yorktown, Oct. 17, 1781." The piece stands on the lawn on the river front the inscription, "Surrendered by the capitulation Yorktown, 19 in of October, 1781." But it also bears inscription "Domay, Berenger, 1779," which proves to be not English bro. ze, but French bronze.

In the first place, the catalogue of these gans is not meant to be a descriptive one, giving their history, etc., for in most cases this is only traditionary; but is designed simply to give them their place and leave the in scriptions on them to tell their own story. Now, what are the historical errors that are so important as to demand correction in your widely circulated paper There are only two mentioned, and the first is that the eat logue asserts that the cannon captured at Yorktown is English broaze, whereas it really is French bronze, according to the inscription on the gun itself. Now the catalogue asserts to such thing. When it says "English bronze cuns " it has no reservace to where the bronze came from, waether from France Germany or England. It is English, not in this sense, but in the sense of own ership-it belonged to the English. The plain meaning and one which it seems to me anyone would give to the statement in the catalogue is: "This gun, which belonged to the English, is fundo of bronze, and was captured at Yorktown." It would not be only an error in history, but an egregious an i unpardonable blunder to put a state ment in the catalogue flatly contradicted by the inserin

tion on the gun itself. The other error is thus stated: The other error is thus stated:

One more observation on two other French-made pieces in the grounds of the Newburg Headquarters. Born bear the inscription, "Liberte-Egalita;" one is marked "Arsenai de Paris," the other "Perior, Paris," Both near the date of construction, "an 3," which, is our reckening, was 1792. Now, since the War of Independence had come to a cose cieven years previously, there is no sense in which these cannon can be styled, as they are in the catalogue, either "Trophass" or "Revolutionary relies"; except that indeed they are relies of the France Periodicular, a period which there cannot be French Revolution, a period which there cannot be d to have any special appositeness in commemorating connection with Washington's Headquarters. In truta, these two pieces have no commentorative appropriateness at all, and have therefore no business where they are.

These are put down simply "Guns -French bronze-Revolutionary relies." These two are the only ones out of over thirty that styled "Revolutionary relies." with the fact that they are French and have on them the words" Liberte-Egalite," renders it impossible for anyone but an ignoranus to doubt of what revolution they are "resics." These words indicate a revolution at a period of time that makes one shudder as he looks upon them inscribed on a gan. They were words not only in scribed on French cannon, but emblazoned on French flags, uttered along the streets and shouted forth by French armies on the battlefield, carrying more terror to the heart of despotism than the thunder of their guns. These words lay at the bottom of the most terrible revo lution the world ever beheld, and it needed no long de intion the word ever beheld, and it needed no long description to tell where the guns on which they are inscribed belonged. How they came into our possession I do not know and never took the pains to inquire, but suppose that they were captured from the French oy the English during the war that followed the revoin ion of 1792, and some twenty years after were used by the latter against us, in the War of 1812, and fell into our hands in some of the battles in that war; being in the State arseand, they were probably captured in one of those fought on our northern frontier. Be that as it may, the fact is of minor importance; the interest attached to them arises wholly from their being "relies" of the French revolution. But Mr. Forbes says that even as such, "they have no business where they are," If this be a correct criticism than half of the thirty odd guns on the grounds have no business where they are, if this be a correct criticism than half of the thirty odd guns on the grounds have no business there. Some of the guns there were used in the French and Indian war, some in the war of 1776, some in that of 1812, and others were captured in the Mexican War and in the War of the Rebeilhon. These all have been sent to us by the General Government, by the State Government, and by individuals. The trustees did not feel it their duty nor were they inclined to cuit out those that related alone to the Revolution of 1776 and send the rest back, as nearly all of them are memorials of the various wars we have been engaged in since the foundation of the ciovernment, and hence are objects of more or less interest to the more than 100,000 people that annually visit this consecrated spot, from every part of our country and of the exitized world.

PERSUADING THINKING DEMOCRATS. scription to tell where the guns on which they are in-

PERSUADING THINKING DEMOCRATS. to the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In this county we made an extraordinary gain on the October vote, especially in neighborhoods where a number of copies of THE TRIBUNE were distributed. Consequently we are free to admit that there is no more effective method of conducting a Re-

publican campaign than by the free distribution of your able journal among the thinking class of property-holding Democrats.

6. F. TAYLOR.

Braxton C. H., W. Va., Dec. 17, 1880.

PURITANS AND PILGRIMS.

EDWARD C. ICWNE DEFENDS THE MEMORY OF THE PLYMOUTH FOREFATHERS AND THEIR PASTOR THE LIGHT OF THE PILGRIMS NOT TO BE HID-DEN UNDER THE BUSHEL OF PURITANISM. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Since I have been in England, and engaged in special study of the English origin of the United States, there have been published in New-York two works of the bighest character in most respects, which yet make worse than common mistakes about those Pilgrim Fathers whom just now we call to remembrance. Professor M. C. Tyler, in his "History of American Literature," does less than justice to the Puritans, and to the Pilgrims does the gressest injustice by of the worst type of Purirantsm. colors is a great mistake to use any lenger the pepular charcoal sketch of Puritan character and manners Neither in Eugland nor in New-England were the Puritans wholly severe and dark and dogmatic. They had a side which was bright and genial and liberal, a side of largeness and breadth, of sweetness and light. The historian must recover Puritan humanity, which often shone with a bright light, and not dwell alone on the Puritan church discipline, which so commonly showed that light in dark eclipse. Looking along the whole line of Poritan history, m England and In America, and allowing all the lights of that history to appear, we may easily see tendencies and promise in all Puritanism greatly superior to the character commonly assigned to And these tendencies to breadth, and freedom and

light were thoroughly worked out by the Prigrims, almost as manifestly and quite as completely as by their great contemporary, Snakespeare. Mr. Matthew Arnold says; "What peer company Shakespeare would have found the immortal men and women of the Mayflower." He could not have endured their want of humanity, at ye anywhere between the two editions published in Mr. Arnold. Yet the fact is, that Shakespeare would America; save that your edition prints the "prefa-tory note" in three pages, large type, leaded, full-brane measure, while the "authorized American they, as Separatists, departed from Purnamen, but, as broad Independents, they had, for the sake of discrality as well as liberty, departed from Separatorn, and had developed a distinct type of their own, as much marked by charity and toleration, sweetness and light, the deaire for pure truth and the study of free learning, as the filest Broad Church type of the present day. There is a whole history of this Pilgrim Church and Pilgrim type of mind to be restored, and a long chapter would be required for even a condensed statement of the peritnent facts, which show conclusively that the Pilgrims were, like Shikespears, free and natural and human; and that in the better Parities there was hidden the Pilgram mood and principle of liberty and light to such an extent as to secure, in the course of American development, the trumpu of this Pligran principle on a wide scale. The fact is really the key to the history of culture and freedom in America, and when Professor Tyler completely misrepresents it, he make the greatest, the most damaging, and the most unfortunate mistake which the subject admits of.

But worse than this is attempted by Dr. Dexter in one of his recently published lectures on Congregational-ism. Dean Stanley, in an address to the students of the Scotch Colversity of St. Andrews, quoted the famous farewell address of the Pilgrim paster, the sagacious and saintly Robinson, and pronounced to the charter of the future glories of Christianuy," Dr. Dexter does not turnk so. He argues that the address had no such meaning as has been given to it. He thinks to establish another view, with the result of having, as he says, "pulled down the paster of the Prigrims from that high podestal whereon the late genera-tions-and more especially the heterodox among them-have delighted to exalt him as the apostle of a thought so progressive to be quite out of sight of his own times, and the prophet of a liberalism having unlimited capacity to cembrace further light." Dr. D xter's argument in

support of his view is this. He says:

I need hardly remaind you that the theology of the Synod of Dort was Calvinism in its stret and stern to me that the spirit in which it was conceived and carried out had in it the opposite of toleration—had in it, indeed, hardly the possibility of so much as the conception that the good men of any future and could see things in any form essentially different from that in which it conceived them.

I conceive it to be quite impossible for any candul person to treat carefully Robinson's treatise in defence of the doctrine of this synod, without reaching the conclusion function was in minimage agreement with the Synod, not merely in the articles of faith which it had formulated, but in that amounts of malibility and inexposure to essential future modification in which it held them. Such being the fact, it is impossible that he should have spoken to the Plymouth men in the sense in which he has been commonly reputed to mave spoken. Nothing short of ansanty could have made him teach after the fashion of the self-styled "advanced thinkers" of today.

Such is Dr. Dexter's view, and there is but one diffsupport of his view is this. He says:

Such is Dr. Dexter's view, and there is but one difficulty about it-every point of it that is new can be shown upon the most conclusive evidence of Robinson's own many and clear declarations to be absolutely contrary to fact. Robinson was certainly an orthodox Calvinist, as against the Armintans, but he had a manhood great and so spiritual and so free that the theological garb sat lightly upon him, and he presented the unique spectacle of an orthodox Calviuis: at the worst moment orthodox Calvinism ever saw, rising completely above his own orthodoxy in a temper of charity, toleration, gentleness and liberality; which has never been surpassed. There is evidence of the most interesting character that the Arminian cause derived its strength from the more Caristian spirit of its chamversy on the orthodox side as a public disputant, his immediate success was due entirely to his unexampled superiority, not only to the wild beasts of Dutch Calvanism around aim, but to the gentle and liberal Armi nians opposed to him. There is evidence also that Robinson feli that his own party had brought things to such a pass of bad spirit and violent degmatism that he thought the wilderness better than the company he wast torced to keep. The evidence that Robinson taught the largest toleration, and that the Pligriais thoroughly carried it out is abundant and conclusive. Dr. Dexter has evolved a Robinson from his own legical consciousness of the many sayings and the strategiat course of life and character which prove the real Robin on to have been even more liberal than he appears in the tarewell address. He was indeed, out of signt of his own times; he desired to keep unlimited his capacity to "embrace further light;" and when all the facts, of what he said, and what he did, and what he was, are brought into view, his pedestal is found to his him quite out of the reach of rash attempts to pull him do wa. Dr. Dexter has written wit out due care; for the proofs which he nesteets are both many and canclusive in Robinson's was words, and they leave notifing to be desired in support of the most favorable view of Robinson's linistrous superiority to his age, his party, and even his latth. mson felt that his own party had brought things to

laith.

If I succeed in returning to America with the now year, I shall make public the fascinating story of the Phigrim Church, as I have succeeded in recovering it. It is to be recretted that the worst attemet ever made to hide the Phigrim light under the Paritan bushef should have been made at this late day by a writer who has had exceptional means of learning the truth. Dr. Dexter seems not sufficiently conscious of the difference between faithful history and denominational journalism.

Enderhank Parsangae, Stannington, earr Sachield, Eng. Enward C. Towse. Underbank Parsonage, Stannington, near Snegletd, England, Dec. 7, 1880.

A PROMISING CAREER CUT SHORT, to the Editor of The Tribunc.

SIR: The news, published in THE TRIBUNE of to day, of the sad railroad accident in North Carolina, by which Frank W. Smith, of this city, lost his life, created among his numerous friends a feeling of profound sorrow. He was a salesman for Benedici, Hall & co., and had been with that firm since boyhood. His manners were open and agreeable, added to which was a life of strict integrity and manly bearing which made him hosts of friends. He came from the State of Con-necticut, a rustic, white-haired doy, to the great metrop-oils. It was not long before he developed rare capacity as a salesman, and at the time of his death he was an eminently successful and promising young man. The State of Connecticut never produced a better. New-York, Dec. 23, 1880. Thos. C. Thackston.

MR. HUGHES'S COLONY.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: My eldest son, eighteen years of age, desires to be a farmer, and I hope you will oblige us with information about Mr. Thomas Hughes's community at Rugby, Tenn. My son is in carnest about being a farmer, it is no whim. Brooklyn, Dec. 23, 1880.

[Our answer to this and many similar letters addressed to THE TRIBUNE is, write to the Superintendent of the Rugby Colony, Rugby, Tenn. All the information we have about the colony has already been printed in our columns, -Ed.1

A KIND THING TO DO.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: A number of well-known gentlemen of Brooklyn have recently published at their own ex-pense a poem entitled "Libertas," written by Mr. C. Hatch Smith, in the hope that its sale might prove profitable to the author. Paralysis has incapacitated Mr. Smith for nearly every kind of work and persons who purchase his peem will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are assisting a worthy man.

New York, Dec. 16, 1880.

LABORARE EST ORARE.-Senior Surgeon: "I wish particularly to see case No. 36 in your ward be-fore I leave. I tear the symptoms are not so favor-able——" Nurse: "You cannot enter now, Sir George, We are just going to have aven song!"